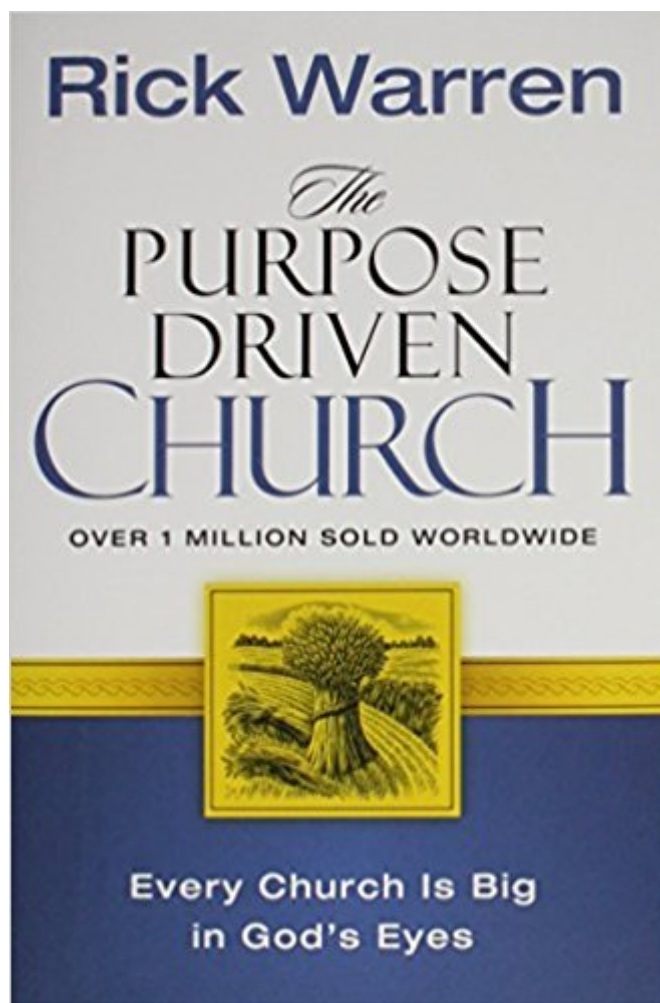


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The Purpose Driven Church: Every Church Is Big In God's Eyes



Synopsis

“The Purpose Driven® Church has brought focus and direction to more pastors and church leaders than you can count. What a gift!” John Ortberg, bestselling author Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But Rick Warren believes that in order for a church to be healthy it must become a purpose-driven church, built around the five New Testament purposes given to the church by Jesus. “The issue is church health, not church growth!” declares Warren. “If your church is healthy, growth will occur naturally. Healthy, consistent growth is the result of balancing the five biblical purposes of the church.” Rick Warren shares a proven five-part strategy that will enable your church to grow • warmer through fellowship • deeper through discipleship • stronger through worship • broader through ministry • larger through evangelism The Purpose Driven® Church shifts the focus away from church building programs to emphasizing a people-building process. Warren says, “If you will concentrate on building people, God will build the church.”

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Customer Reviews

The thesis of The Purpose Driven Church is that when churches think first about their health, growth is sure to follow. "If your church is healthy," writes Rick Warren, "growth will occur naturally. Healthy, consistent growth is the result of balancing the five biblical purposes of the church." These five purposes are to "Love the Lord with all your heart," "Love your neighbor as yourself," "Go and make disciples," "[Baptize] them," and "[Teach] them to obey." And those purposes can only be

accomplished, argues Warren, when church leaders stop thinking about church-building programs and shift their focus to a "people-building process" involving fellowship, discipleship, worship, and evangelism. Warren, the founder of the fastest-growing Baptist church in American history, has taught seminars to thousands of pastors from all over the world, many of whom have successfully implemented his techniques.

'The Purpose Driven(R) Church has brought focus and direction to more pastors and church leaders than you can count. What a gift!'---John Ortberg, bestselling author Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But Rick Warren believes that in order for a church to be healthy it must become a purpose-driven church, built around the five New Testament purposes given to the church by Jesus. 'The issue is church health, not church growth!' declares Warren. 'If your church is healthy, growth will occur naturally. Healthy, consistent growth is the result of balancing the five biblical purposes of the church.' Rick Warren shares a proven five-part strategy that will enable your church to grow * warmer through fellowship * deeper through discipleship * stronger through worship * broader through ministry * larger through evangelism The Purpose Driven(R) Church shifts the focus away from church building programs to emphasizing a people-building process. Warren says, 'If you will concentrate on building people, God will build the church.'

As a congregational rabbi, there were many good lessons that I took from Warren's model of church leadership and organization. Not all of the mission of his type of church is translatable to synagogue life. Though, I believe there is more that is similar than different. His outline of types of churches is extraordinarily helpful. There are all different types of congregations, from the learning congregation to the praying congregation. In reality, our houses of worship are amalgamations of all sorts of personality types. That being said, we get into trouble when we do not have clarity about who we are, and by what we are driven. Here enters the purpose. To first define our purposes and then to drive with those right up front changes the conversation we're having. No longer do we have to feel like we're keeping up with the congregation down the street. Rather, we can be comfortable in our own skin. We know who we are and why we exist. That gives a new sense of freedom and an ability to be creative. Warren's book is clearly written, and has lots of great practical advice. What I loved about it was that he brought together lots of different ideas that I have seen echoed in other texts. This would also be a great resource for congregational lay leaders, not just rabbis and pastors.

I just finished this for the 2nd time and plan on starting it all over again. I have been putting into practice these principles into the life of the church for over 20 years and seen much MUCH fruit. This time reading it I have committed to brush off the cob webs of the PDC model. I thought that the principles would be outdated since the first time I read this. NO WAY! Still applicable today as when this was first written and when I first read it. I am more committed to building a PDC church now more than ever. If you are a seasoned pastor, someone who is discerning Gods call into ministry, or someone who is just starting out in ministry - this book is a must read and re-read.

Have you ever had the burden to start up a new church, but don't know how? Have you ever wondered if there were things you can do to better service the church? Have you ever wondered about new ways to attract people and make them feel welcome? Is the place where you meet in shambles and you want to do something to turn it around? Purpose Driven Church will answer all these questions and more. The thing I like most is that the title says "Purpose". It's really hard to have a successful church life without a vision of where to go or a purpose for it. Granted, this book may not cause your church to do a complete 180, but it's a start and a good one at that.

As usual , and subsidiaries delivered this book early and in great condition. This book is written in easy to read language, in big enough print to read easily. It is very interesting and dissects many ideas and concepts about making a church pleasing to God and user friendly. It discusses how to help people who need church to actually get in the church. It discusses salvation and also fellowship and service and many many other things. It is highly recommended!!!

I am learning a lot about things that I have never even thought about. This is a very insightful book, a must read. You go to church on sundays, but a lot of the operation of the church are foreign to us.

We are going through this book as a church board, it is awesome to have the leadership of the church get refocused and strengthened in the purpose God has for us. Going through it together builds unity and makes us of one mind.

Warren has some insight gained from starting a church plant in California that he has led to become a massive mega church. Although his church began small and made mistakes along the way, he lends insight for all churches to help them set and accomplish goals.

Great book it really gives a lot of insight into what I personally think a church should be and how to grow a healthy church. I read it to get a perspective of how the church is and the inner workings and it gave a lot of perspective.

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